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5 April 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT

: ARVN Interdiction Proposal

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1. We discussed an earlier draft of the attached cable and I have also caucused on the attached draft by phone with [redacted] [redacted] The attached is a full and fair description of the concept, but I feel the final paragraph (para 8) as presently written could stimulate a more activist posture, especially in Saigon, then we may want to produce. I would therefore suggest the following substitute version for your consideration:

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"8. WISH TO EMPHASIZE THIS NOT TO BE  
CONSIDERED, OR PRESENTED, AS [redacted]  
"PROPOSAL" AND [redacted] WOULD CERTAINLY  
NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEPLOYMENT OF  
ARVN FORCES IF IDEA TOOK HOLD, THOUGH WE  
WOULD NATURALLY PROVIDE INTELLIGENCE  
SUPPORT INCLUDING, WHERE FEASIBLE,  
TARGETTING ASSISTANCE. AT THIS STAGE WE  
ARE SEEKING ONLY YOUR REACTIONS AND  
COMMENTS. AFTER THOSE RECEIVED AND  
DIGESTED WE MAY WANT YOU TO FLOAT IDEA  
INFORMALLY TO YOUR RESPECTIVE AMBASSADORS

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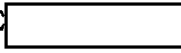
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AND PERHAPS GENERAL ABRAMS OR  
GENERAL WEYAND. FOR NOW, HOWEVER,  
PLEASE DO NOT TAKE SOUNDINGS OUTSIDE  
THE  FAMILY BUT DO GIVE US YOUR  
FRANK AND PRIVATE VIEWS."

2. I did not make any of these comments either on the message  
itself or the buckslip appended thereto since I thought it would be more  
useful to sort out our own respective views privately without arguing the  
case before third parties. I have therefore put these thoughts on this  
separate sheet, the only copy of which is going EYES ONLY to 

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George A. Carver, Jr.  
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

cc: 

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